



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

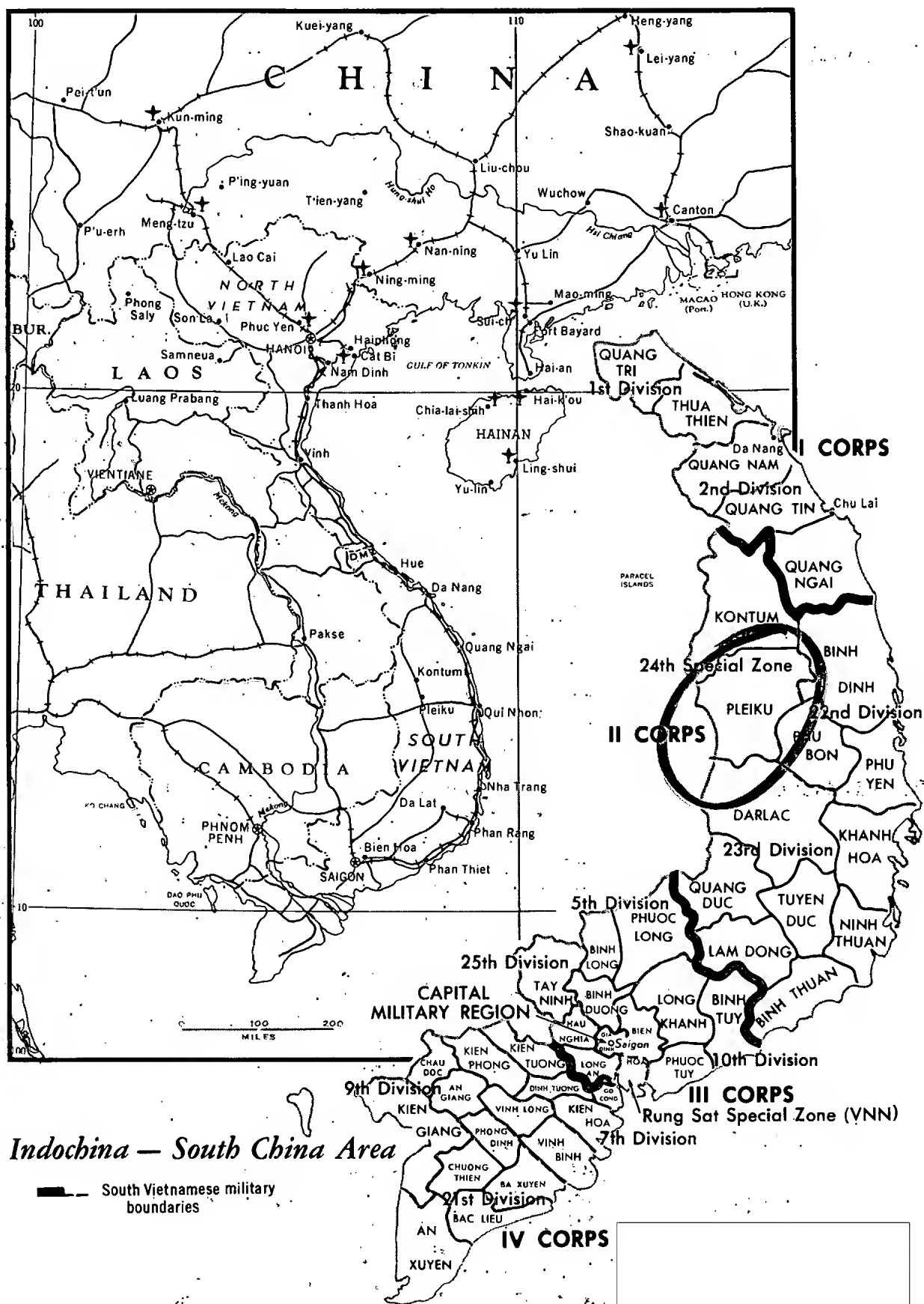
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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9 AUGUST 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
9 AUGUST 1965

1. South Vietnam

Five South Vietnamese battalions have now been committed to the continuing action in the area of the special forces camp at Duc Co in western Pleiku Province.

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The press is reporting a demonstration at Da Nang today against recent burning of homes by US Marines. In recent weeks there have been scattered demonstrations in the Mekong Delta area demanding an end to air and artillery strikes, which are usually attributed to US forces. While it is difficult to judge the depth of feeling reflected in such demonstrations, Viet Cong policy is to foster and inspire them whenever the opportunity is presented.

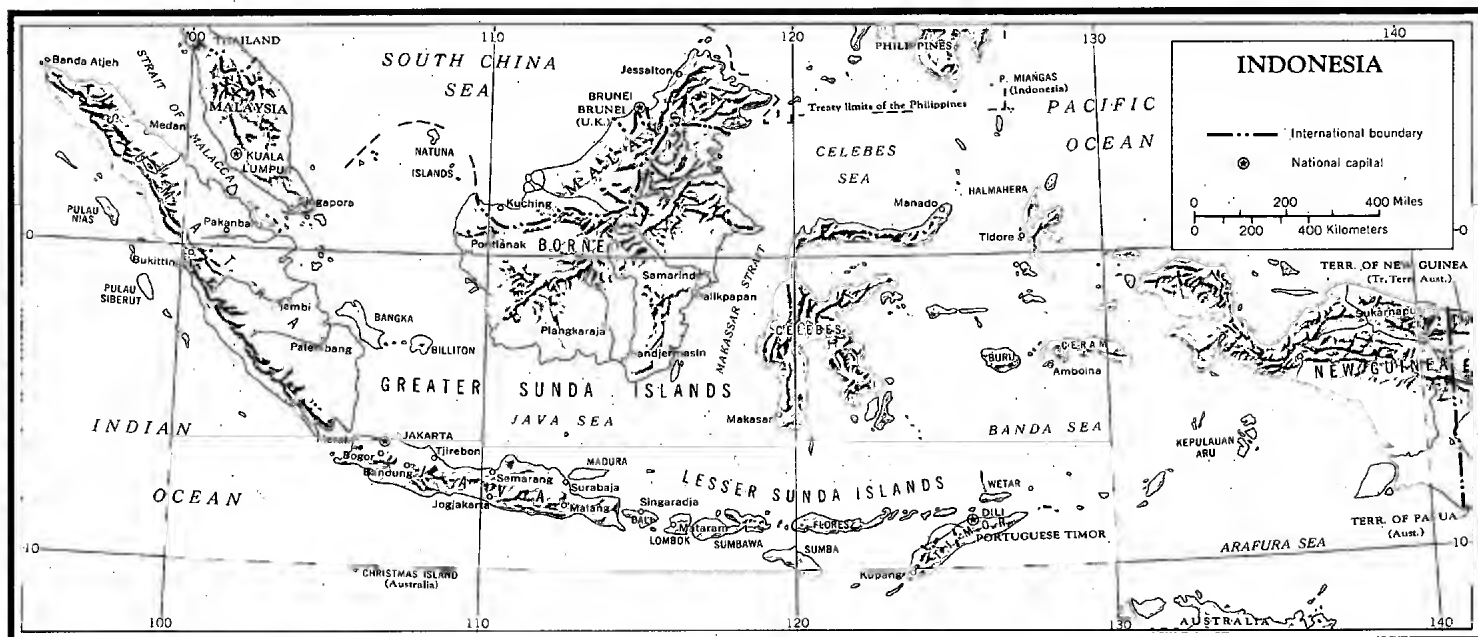
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2. Vietnam

Communist reaction to the President's 28 July statement, in particular the South Vietnamese Liberation Front 3 August communiqué, appears now to reflect concern that the US buildup is changing the military balance of power. The Front asserted its resolve to multiply its fighting forces "to make them capable of defeating the US aggressors." This contrasts with earlier claims that Viet Cong combat strength was equal to that of the South Vietnamese.

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3. Singapore

Singapore's withdrawal from Malaysia was made primarily at the insistence of the Malay leaders, who feared a new racial explosion.

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Meanwhile, however, Singapore clearly will follow a more independent policy

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4. Indonesia

All this plays into Sukarno's hands. Singapore's withdrawal from Malaysia has come just in time to give him a real victory to gloat over in his 17 August Independence Day speech.

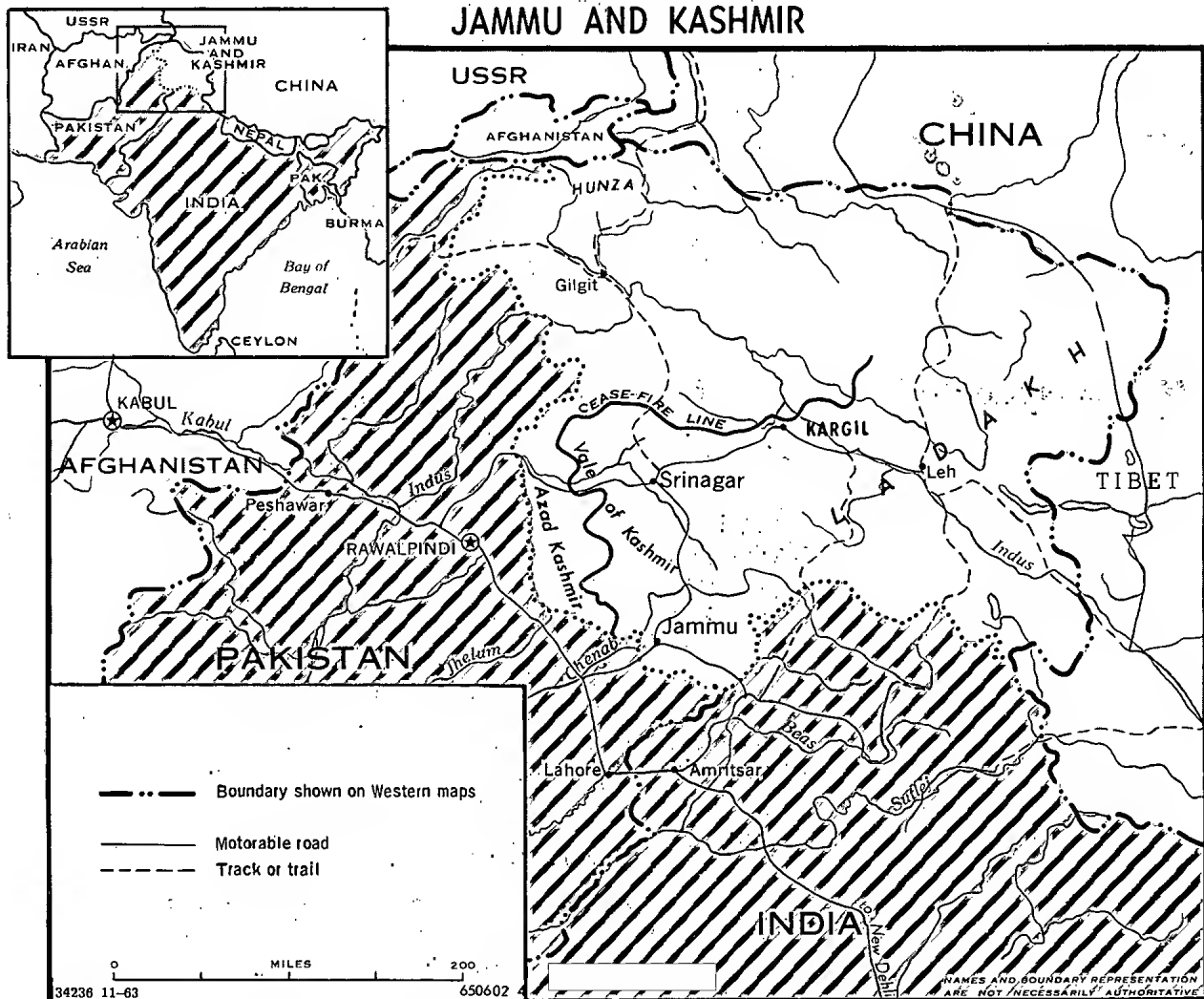
It also strengthens immeasurably the position of those leftist elements, like Foreign Minister Subandrio, who are the principal backers of the hitherto floundering "confrontation" against Malaysia. Subandrio immediately offered to recognize Singapore and establish diplomatic relations.

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5. Dominican Republic

There has been no reaction reported yet to the "Act of Dominican Reconciliation" which the OAS issued today.

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6. Greece

No resolution to the crisis is in sight. A Center Union Party meeting has overwhelmingly rejected Stephanopoulos' request that he be allowed to accept the King's invitation to "explore" the problem of forming a government.

At the same time, however, Papan-dreou's parliamentary bloc is gradually being whittled away by the King's maneuvers. Perhaps because of this, Papan-dreou's threats to go "into the streets" are becoming more pointed. Pro-Papan-dreou demonstrations in turn are certain to increase the nervousness of rightist military circles.

7. India-Pakistan

The smouldering Kashmir problem may be erupting again. Today is the 12th anniversary of the first imprisonment by the Indians of the Kashmir nationalist hero, Sheikh Abdullah. The Pakistanis have seized the occasion to infiltrate sizable patrols deep into Indian-held territory, apparently to suggest a rising against the Indians.

Karachi's radio claims that an "armed rebellion" has broken out already. Karachi also says that a new clandestine "Voice of Kashmir" is broadcasting appeals to revolt [redacted]

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The Indians, much exercised, are threatening on-the-spot counteraction. They have also asked Ambassador Bowles to bring all possible pressure to bear on the Pakistanis.

8. Colombia

The police are trying to round up still another group of leftist terrorists. This group, [redacted]

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[redacted] includes Cuban-trained personnel and Spanish Communists. It entered Colombia in mid-July and planned to begin its campaign by attacking the US Embassy and other American property, possibly tomorrow, as well as by killing some prominent politicians.

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9. Peru

Leftist guerrilla activity in southern Peru [redacted]

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[redacted] has begun. A bridge has been destroyed near Cuzco by uniformed men, probably members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left. This will add to the strain on the government's security forces, which have been committed for some two months to a counterinsurgency effort in the east central part of the country.

10. Sudan

Prime Minister Mahjoub has refused to show Ambassador Rountree documents which, he says, "prove" that the US has been helping the southern Sudanese rebels via the Congo. The use of forged material and Mahjoub's attitude recall the similar affair between the US and Tanzania last year. Mahjoub returned last week from a visit to Tanzania.

A virulent Khartoum press campaign is in progress, linking the US with Congolese and Israeli machinations and calling on the government to turn to Sudan's "real friends," i.e. Egypt and the USSR

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11. Berlin

From today through 19 August the Soviets have restricted for military exercise purposes a wide east-west belt of central East Germany which cuts across the Western Access routes to Berlin.

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If the exercise develops into a major field maneuver, there may well be some interference with allied and West German travel and transport to West Berlin.

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